



## **HISTORY OF THE "MADISON" AEROSOL CHAMBER**

**1968 "First generation" chamber  
designed by Don Smith, Ernie  
Wiegshauss and D. McMurray and  
built at the UW Machine Shop**

**Purpose: to deposit small numbers  
of single bacilli into the  
alveolar spaces of the lung in a  
reproducible manner**

**1970 First publication describing the  
chamber and its application to TB  
in guinea pigs**

**Wiegshauss EH, et al. Am Rev Resp  
Dis 102: 422 (1970)**

## **HISTORY OF THE "MADISON" AEROSOL CHAMBER**

**1983    "Second generation" chamber  
built at UW Machine Shop and  
shipped to D. McMurray at Texas  
A&M University**

**NIH grants & contracts≈\$6 million**

**>50 grad students, research  
scientists, post-docs, technicians**

**>1500 person-hours of contact**

**Not a single accidental exposure**

## **HISTORY OF THE "MADISON" AEROSOL CHAMBER**

**1990- More than ten (10) "third  
2003 generation" chambers built in  
Madison and installed in  
laboratories around the world**

### **Design improvements:**

- 1) Construction materials**
- 2) Integrated electronic  
controls**
- 3) Vacuum guage/fail-safe  
shutdown**
- 4) Collisson nebulizer**
- 5) Improved animal basket  
design/loading**
- 6) Integrated air compressor**

**MADISON AEROSOL CHAMBERS IN USE**  
**AROUND THE WORLD**

**Astra-Zeneca, Bangalore, India**

**AgResearch Wallaceville, Upper Hutt, NZ**

**Vet Sciences Div, Belfast, N Ireland**

**Harvard University, Boston, MA**

**Rockefeller University, New York, NY**

**Univ of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC**

**Colorado State Univ, Fort Collins, CO**

**UT Health Science Ctr, San Antonio, TX**

**UT Medical Branch, Galveston, TX**

**Texas A&M Univ HSC, College Station, TX**

**CURRENT APPLICATIONS OF THE MADISON  
AEROSOL CHAMBER TO INFECTIOUS  
DISEASE RESEARCH**

**I. Pathogens**

*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*  
*Mycobacterium bovis*  
Other mycobacteria  
*Coxiella burnetii*  
*Aspergillus spp*  
*Francisella*  
*Brucella spp*  
*Bacillus anthracis*  
*Coccidioides immitus*

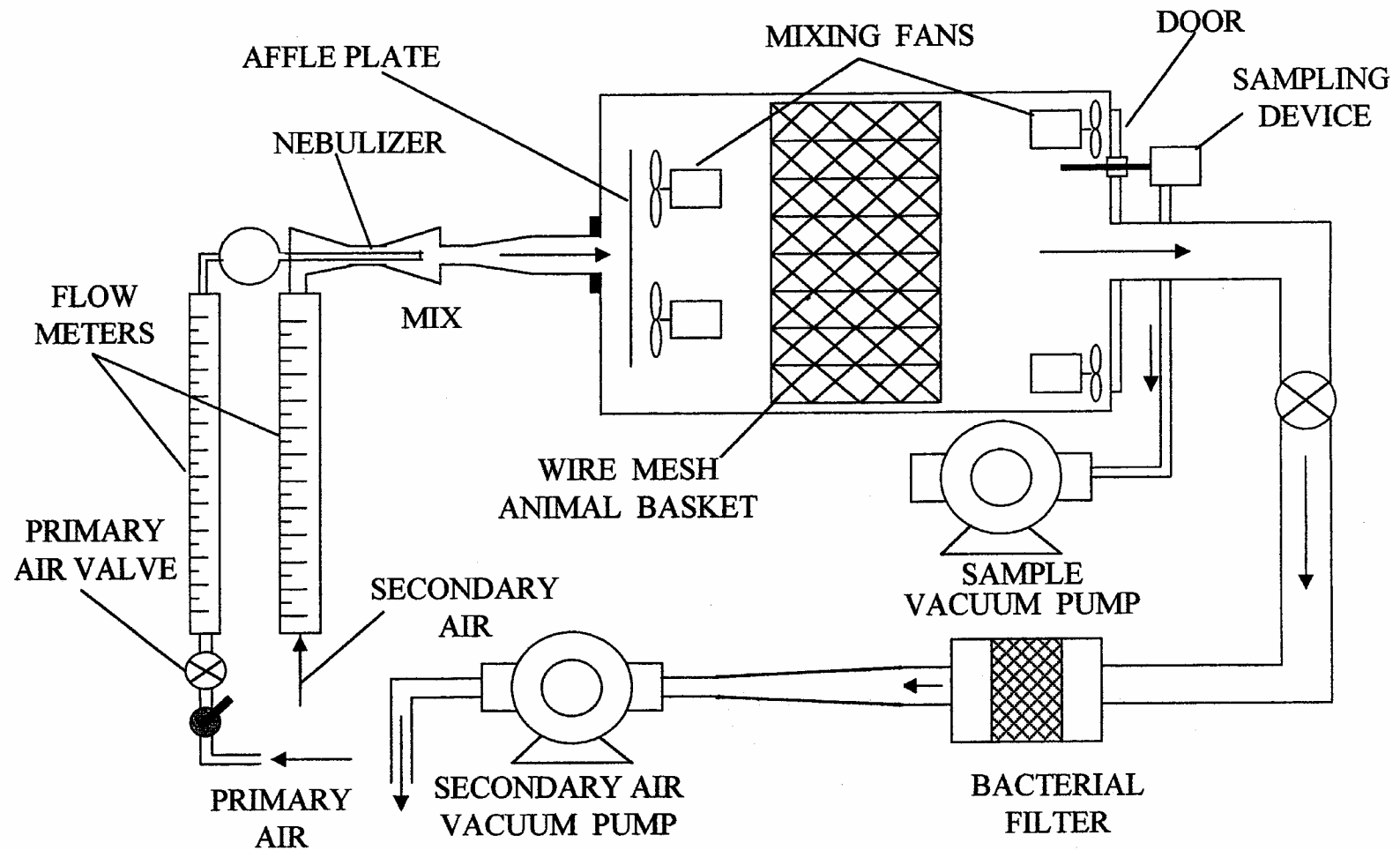
**II. Experimental hosts**

Guinea pigs  
Mice  
Hamsters  
Rabbits  
Brush-tail possums  
Heifers





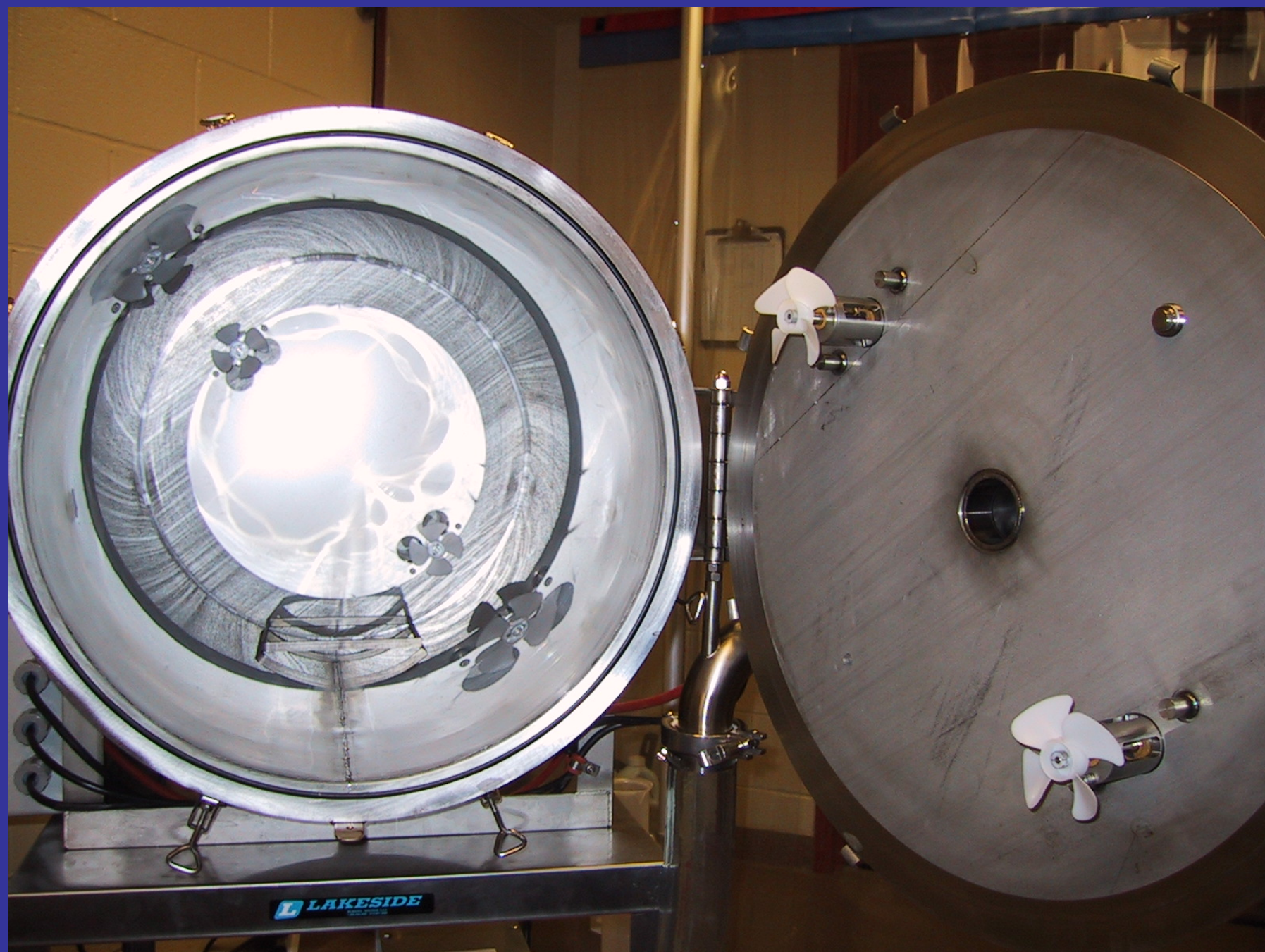
## Schematic diagram of the components of the aerosol infection chamber



















FANS



NEBULIZER



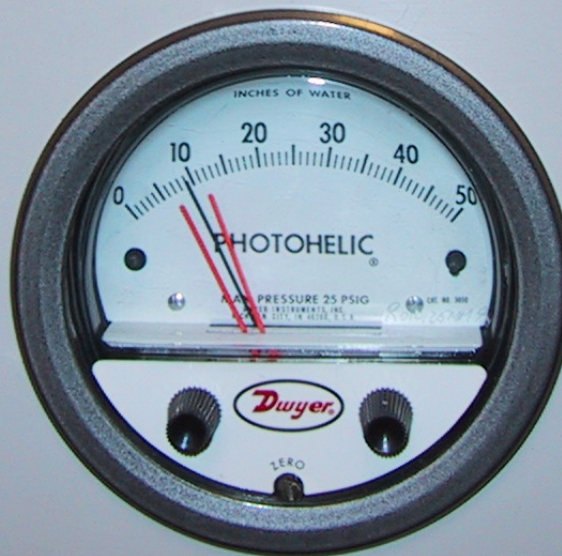
TEST



TEST



POWER



END CYCLE

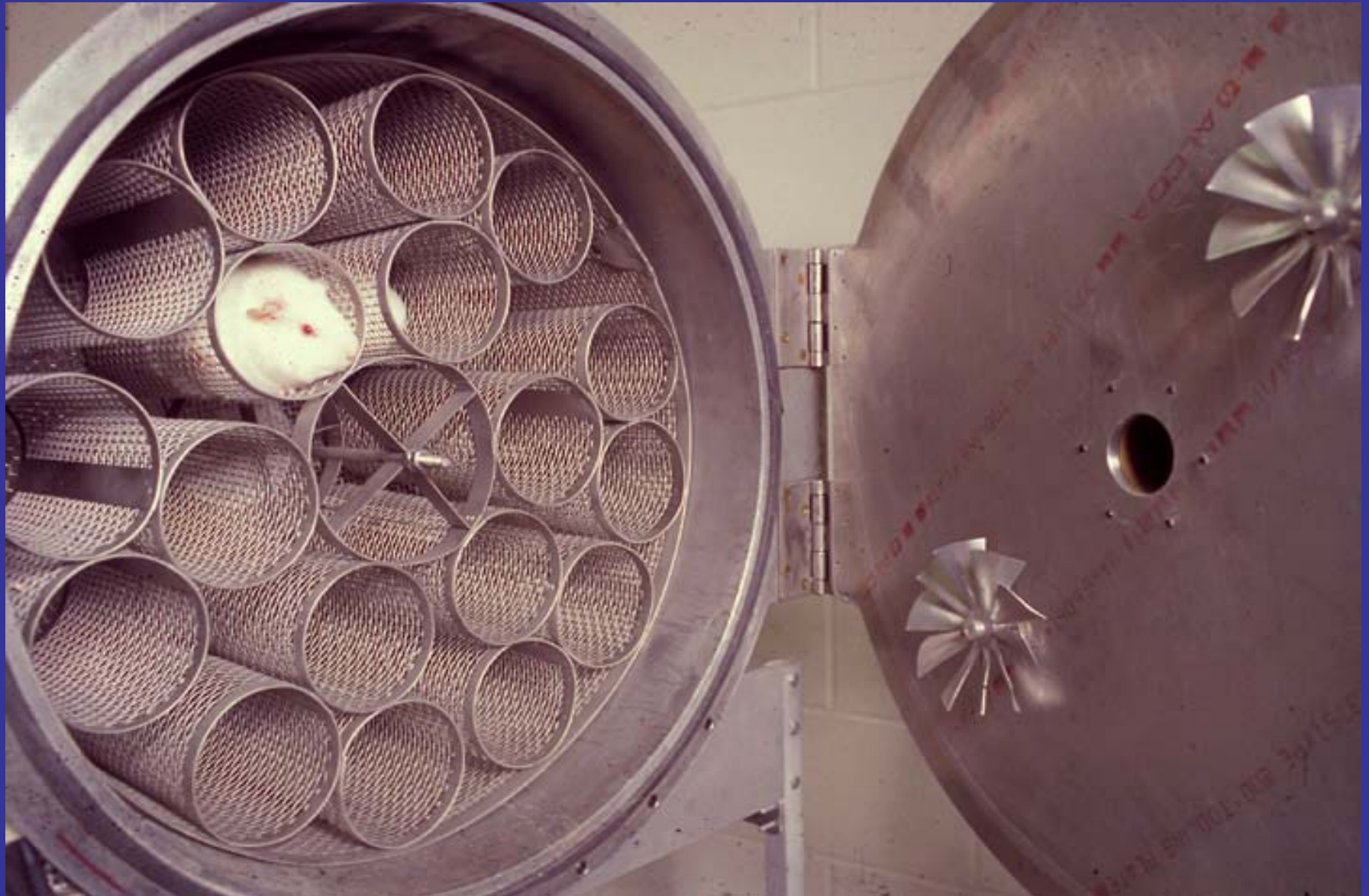


**SAFETY FEATURES OF THE MADISON  
AEROSOL CHAMBER**

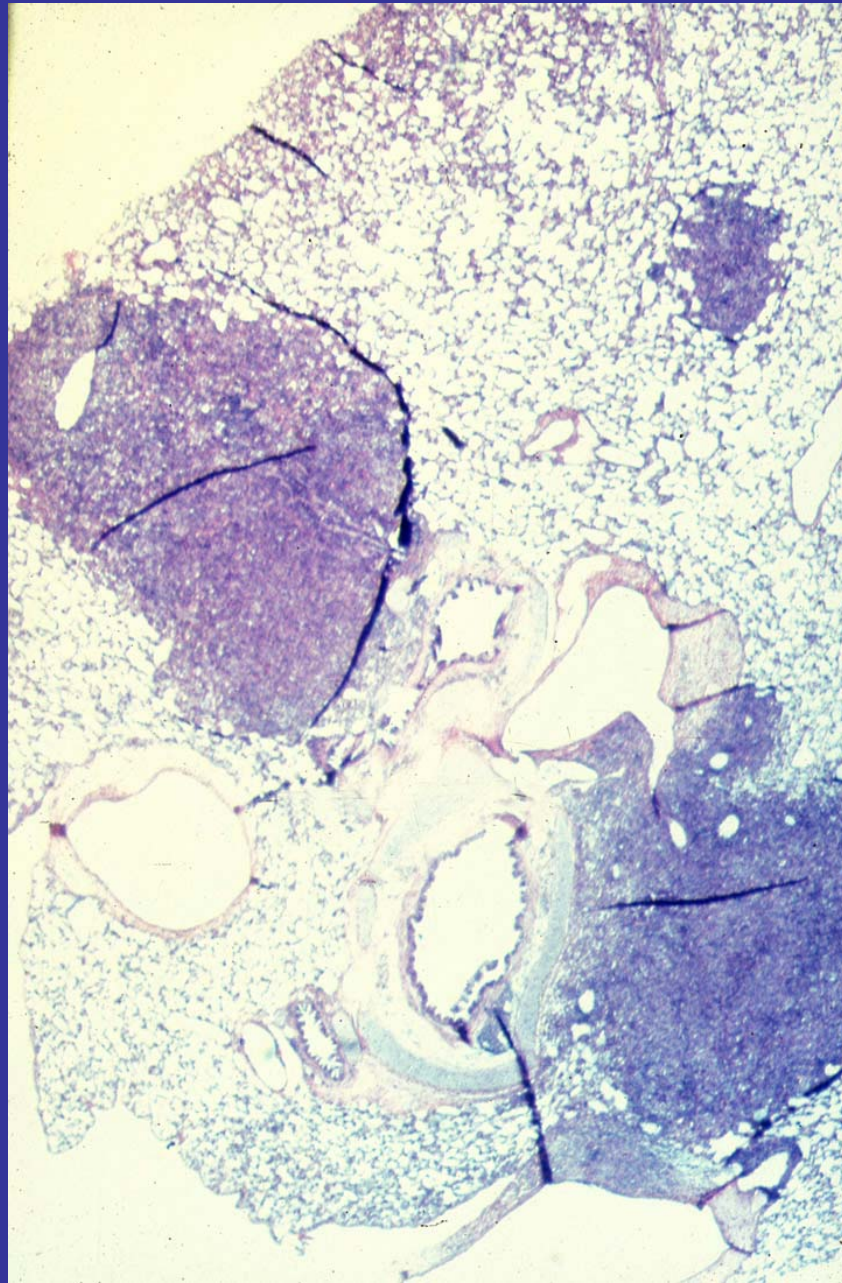
- 1) Entire system sealed and under negative pressure
  - a. Vacuum pump operates continuously
  - b. Vacuum is quantified
  - c. Loss of vacuum triggers shutdown of nebulizer
- 2) Very high proportion of respirable particles (droplet nuclei) requires very low concentration of bacilli in the air (<400 cfu/liter)
- 3) Long washout period with fresh room air (10 min @ 50 liters/min) ensures removal of essentially all airborne bacilli
- 4) No build-up of humidity within the chamber
- 5) Two HEPA filters in series sterilize the effluent air; certification annually; no replacement necessary in 20 years!

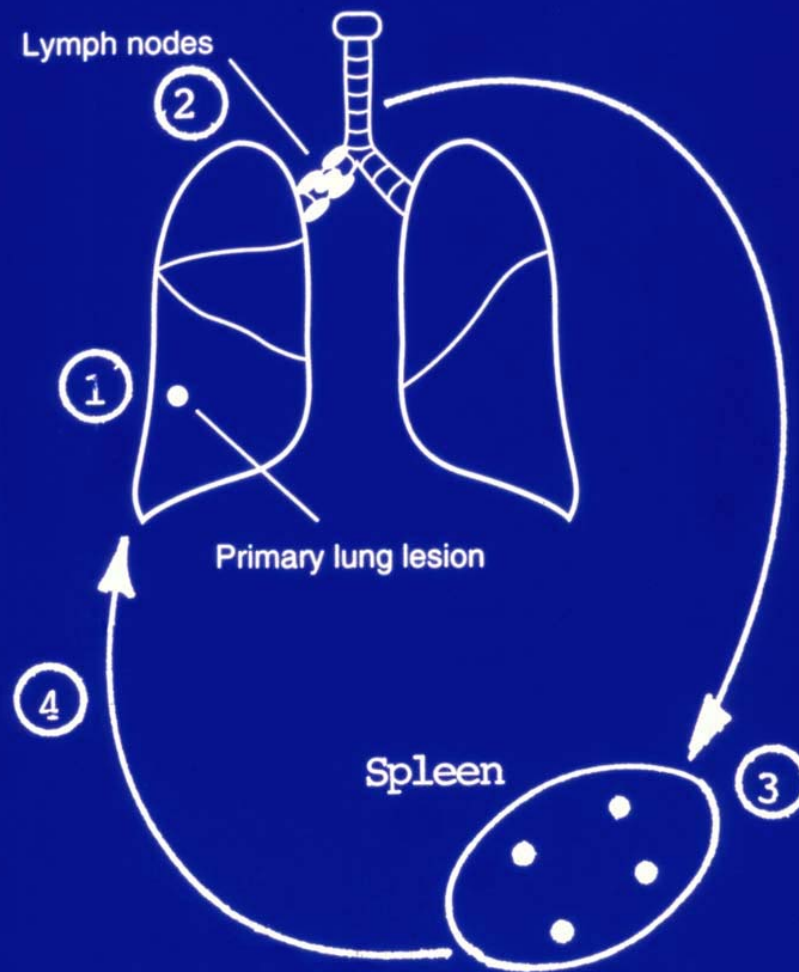


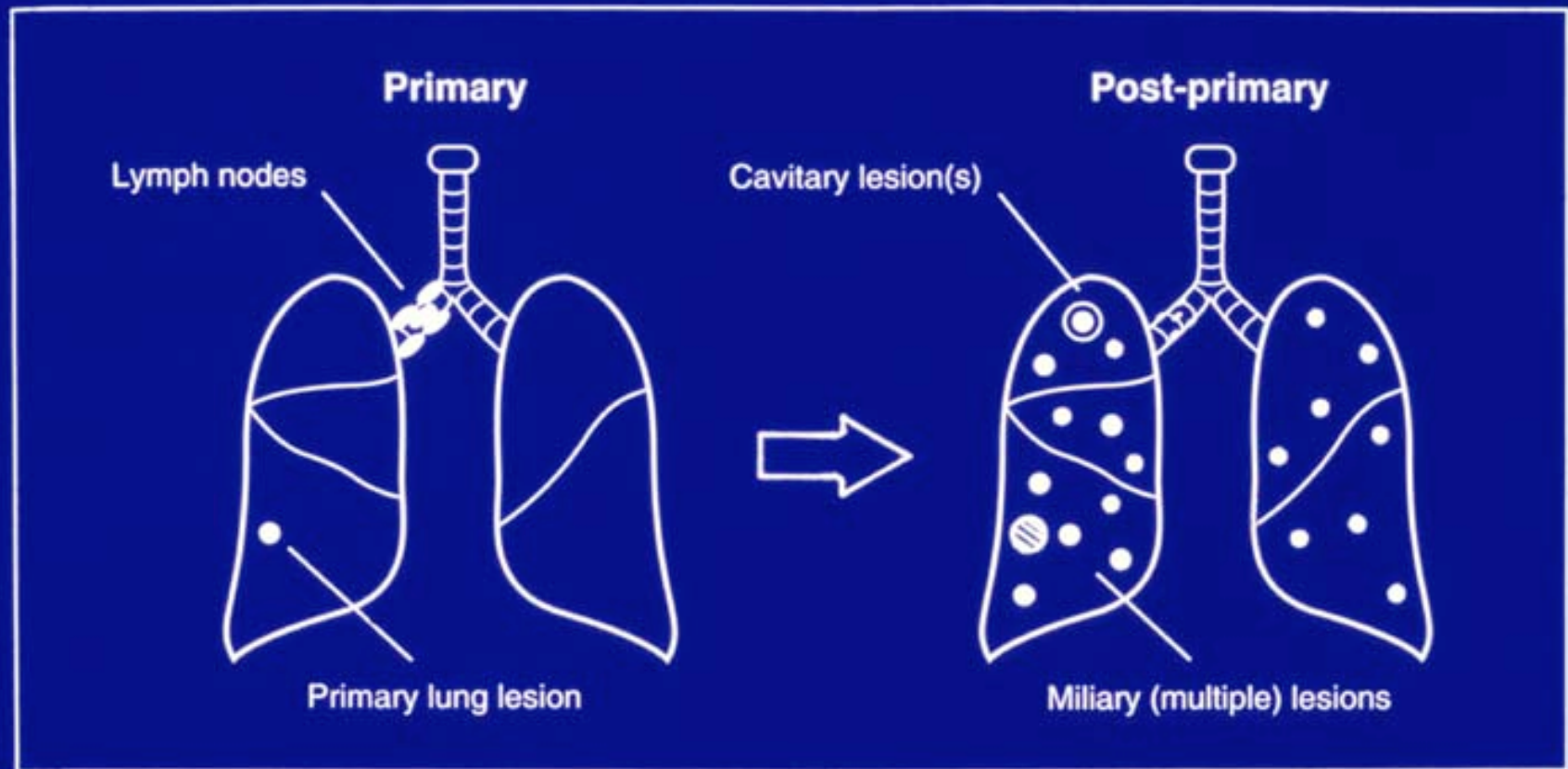














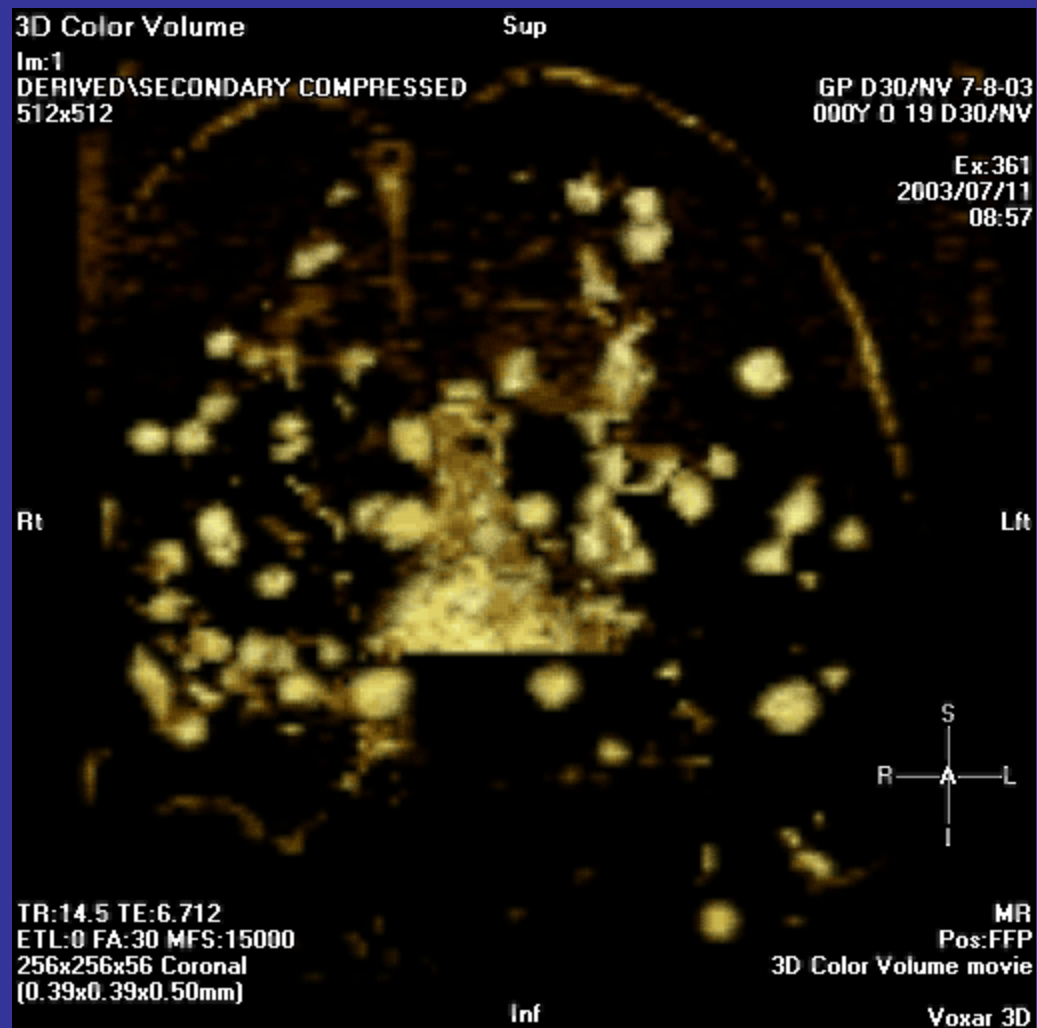




Table 8

Retention of viable A. fumigatus spores in the lungs of guinea pigs  
immediately following aerosol challenge

Exposure Group	Animal Number	Spores Retained in Lung (propagules/gm) <sup>1</sup>	Mean	Log10 of Mean
A1	38	1995	1868	3.27
A2	47	1740		
B1	13	3300	2768	3.44
B2	32	2235		
C1	20	0	0	--
C2	1	0		

<sup>1</sup>

Propagules/gm =  $\frac{\text{average \# colonies per plate} \times \text{dilution factor}}{\text{tissue sample weight}}$

Figure 3. Clearance of spores from the lungs of guinea pigs following aerosol challenge with A. fumigatus in the high dose pathogenicity study.

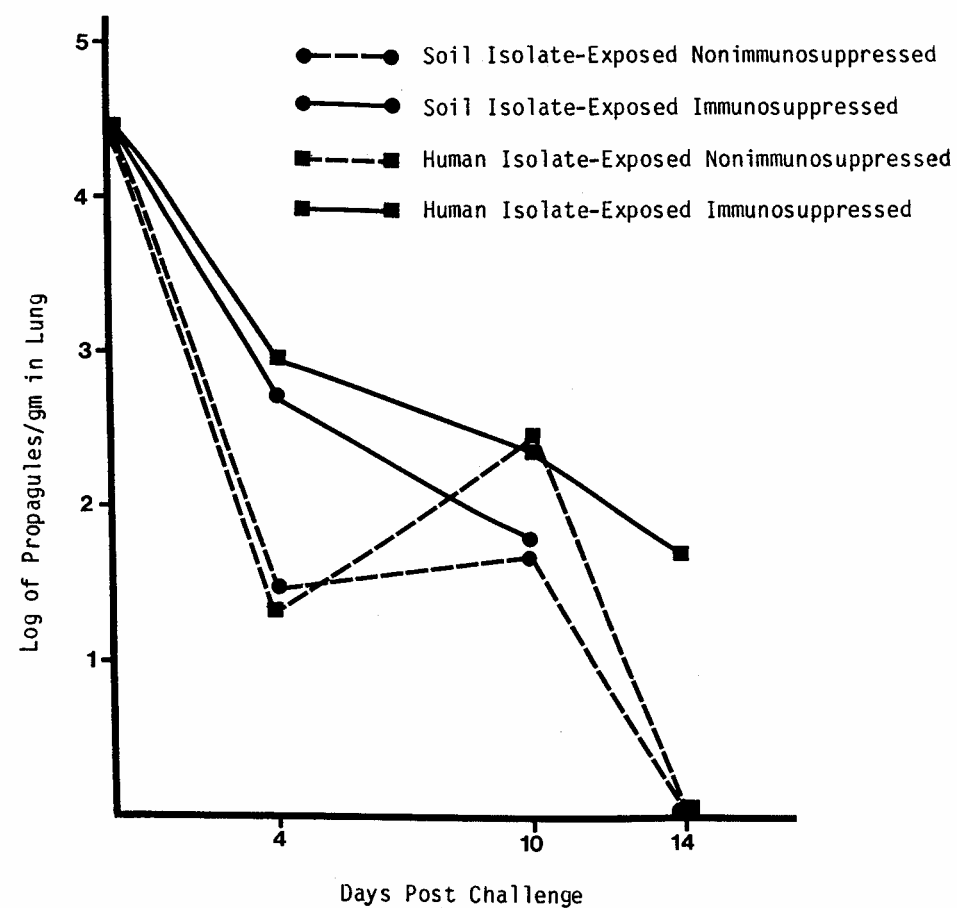


Table 20

Retention of viable A. fumigatus spores in the lungs of guinea pigs  
immediately following aerosol challenge in the high dose  
1  
pathogenicity study

Exposure Group	Animal Number	Spores Retained in Lung (propagules/gm) <sup>2</sup>	Mean	Log of Mean
A1	40	35,150	32,008	4.50
A2	16	28,866		
B1	9	28,860	32,292	4.51
B2	14	35,724		
C1	5	0	0	--
C2	23	0		

<sup>1</sup>

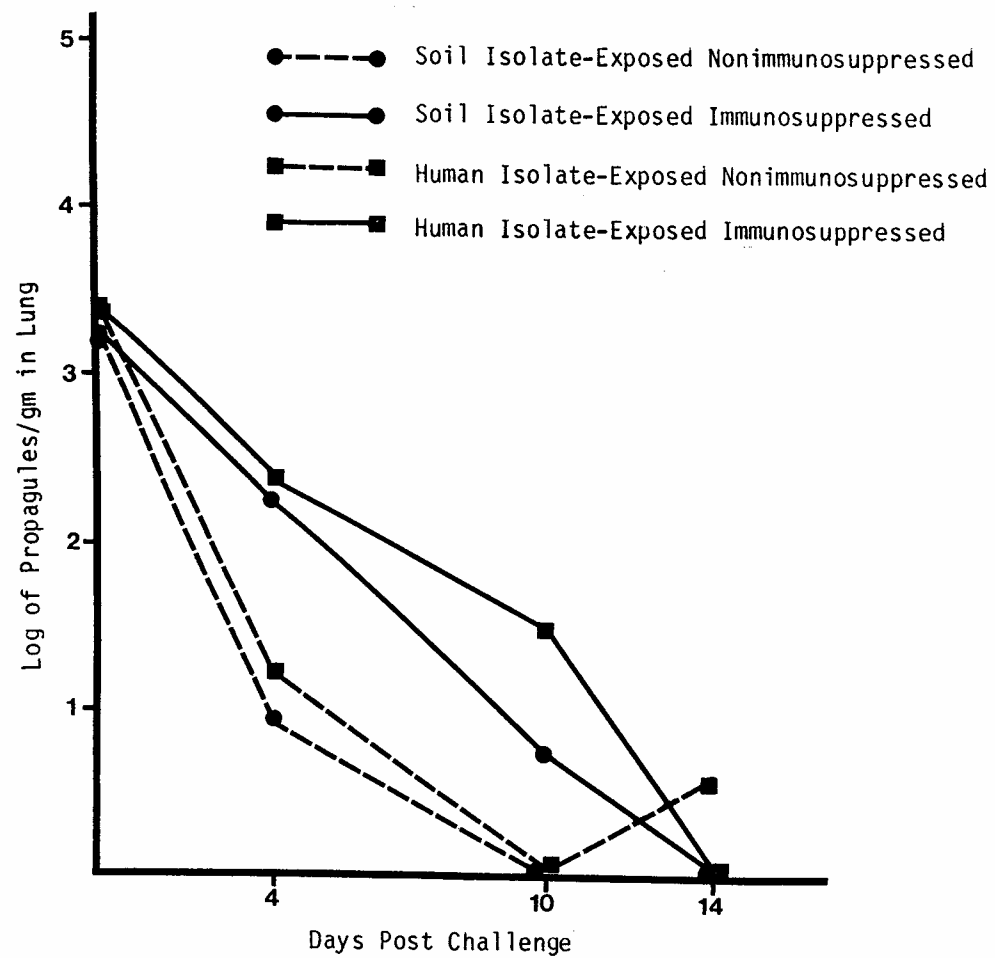
A1 and A2 were the soil isolate-exposed groups, B1 and B2 were the human isolate-exposed groups, and C1 and C2 were the saline exposed control groups.

<sup>2</sup>

propagules/gm =  $\frac{\text{mean colonies per plate} \times \text{dilution factor}}{\text{organ sample weight}}$



Figure 2. Clearance of spores from the lungs of guinea pigs following aerosol challenge with A. fumigatus in the low dose pathogenicity study.





















## COMPARISON OF 1 ° AND 2 ° LUNG LESIONS FROM BCG-VACCINATED AND NON-VACCINATED GUINEA PIGS

<u>CHARACTERISTIC</u>	<u>1° lesion Non-vacc</u>	<u>2° lesion Non-vacc</u>	<u>1° lesion BCG-vacc</u>
Route of implant	Airway	Blood	Airway
CMI present	No	Yes	Yes
Onset of resistance	Delayed	Delayed	Delayed
Granuloma size	Large	Small	Small
Necrosis	Yes	No	No
Max bacillary levels	High	Low	Low

**INSTITUTIONAL DECISIONS REGARDING  
THE USE OF THE MADISON AEROSOL  
CHAMBER**

- 1) BL-3/4 facilities**
- 2) SOP/personnel training**
- 3) Risk/Benefit analysis**
  - a. Selfish motives - prestige;  
indirect costs**
  - b. Altruistic motives - genuine  
desire to contribute to the  
solution of important human  
health problems**
  - c. Biological relevance for the  
study of pulmonary  
infections**
  - d. What is the real (as opposed  
to the perceived) risk?**





